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Dkt. 48557-A/JPW/AJM/AG

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Catherine Dulac and Richard Axel
Serial No.: 09/898,416 Examiner: Michael Pak
Filed : July 3, 2001 Group Art Unit: 1646
For : CLONING OF VERTEBRATE PHEROMONE RECEPTORS AND
USES THEREOF

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
August 1, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO JULY 1, 2003 OFFICE ACTION

This Communication is submitted in response to the July 1, 2003 Office Action issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and further to a July 31, 2003 informal telephone interview between applicants' undersigned attorney, Alan J. Morrison, Esq., and Examiner Michael Pak of the Patent Office in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the July 1, 2003 Office Action is due August 1, 2003. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed.

In the Office Action, the Examiner restricted pending claims 29-32 and 94-99 to one of the following allegedly distinct inventions under 35 U.S.C. §121 as follows:

- I. Claims 29-32, drawn to a method for identifying cDNA;
- II. Claims 94-95, drawn to a transgenic animal;
- III. Claims 96-99, drawn to a nucleic acid encoding VN1;
- IV. Claims 96-99, drawn to a nucleic acid encoding VN2;